

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 8286

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31412

SCOTT L. POFF
CLERK

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PUBLIC NOTICE

**Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment:
Proposed Local Rules**

Attached to this Notice is a **draft** of Proposed Local Rules 5.5 and 8. Notice is hereby given that the Court will receive public comment on the proposed Local Rules for a period commencing upon the publication of this Notice on the Court's website (www.gas.uscourts.gov) through and including Monday, May 28, 2007.

Comments should be made in writing and addressed to Clerk, U.S. District Court, Post Office Box 8286, Savannah, Georgia 31412, or submitted electronically to the Clerk of Court at Scott_Poff@gas.uscourts.gov.

The Court will review all responses.

For the Court:

Dated: May 8, 2007

Scott Poff
Clerk of Court

PROPOSED LOCAL RULE 5.5

LR 5.5. Documents may be filed, signed, and verified by electronic means to the extent and in the manner permitted or required by the Court's Standing Order Regarding Electronic Case Filing in Civil and Criminal Cases and accompanying Administrative Procedures (available on the Court's website at "www.gas.uscourts.gov").

PROPOSED LOCAL RULE 8

LR 8. In compliance with the policy of the Judicial Conference of the United States and the E-Government Act of 2002, as amended, and in order to promote electronic access to case files while also protecting personal privacy and other legitimate interests, any party or person filing pleadings or other documents with the Court shall refrain from including, or shall partially redact where inclusion is necessary, the following personal data identifiers from all such pleadings or documents, including exhibits thereto, whether filed electronically or conventionally in paper form, unless otherwise ordered by the Court:

- a. **Social Security numbers.** If an individual's Social Security number must be included in a pleading or document, only the last four digits of that number should be used.
- b. **Names of minor children.** If the involvement of a minor child must be mentioned, only the initials of that child should be used.
- c. **Dates of birth.** If an individual's date of birth must be included, only the year should be used.
- d. **Financial account numbers.** If financial account numbers are relevant, only the last four digits of these numbers should be used.
- e. **Home addresses.** If a home address must be included, only the city and state should be listed.

A party or person wishing to file a document containing the personal data identifiers listed above may

- a. file an unredacted version of the document under seal, or
- b. file a reference list under seal. The reference list shall contain the complete personal data identifier(s) and the redacted identifier(s) used in its (their) place in the filing. All references in the case to the redacted identifiers included in the reference list will be construed to refer to the corresponding complete personal data identifier. The reference list must be filed under seal and may be amended as of right.

The unredacted version of the document or the reference list shall be retained by the Court as part of the record. A party or person filing under seal an unredacted document containing personal data identifiers shall file simultaneously a redacted copy of the document for the public file.

The responsibility for redacting these personal identifiers rests solely with counsel and the filing party or person. The Clerk will not review each pleading or document for compliance with this rule.